

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-13 are currently pending. Claims 1, 3-4, and 8 have been amended, claim 2 has been cancelled, and claims 9-13 have been added. Applicant acknowledges and appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 2-6 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

The Examiner objected to claim 8 for an informality. Applicant has amended claim 8 to correct the typographical error.

The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 7-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Spedale et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,710,271) in view of Bloser (U.S. Patent No. 2,858,392).

Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the limitations of allowable claim 2. As such, claim 1 is allowable. Claims 3 and 7-8 depend from claim 1 and are also allowable. Claim 4 has also been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of claim 1. As such, claim 4 is allowable. In addition, claims 5-6 and 12-13 depend from claim 4 and are allowable.

New claim 9 defines an electric motor that includes a motor housing and a rotor coupled to the motor housing and supported for rotation about a motor shaft axis that defines an axial direction. A module housing is coupled to the motor housing and is movable in the axial direction with respect to the motor housing. A governor includes a module shaft that is coupled to the rotor for rotation. The governor is disposed substantially within the module housing.

Spedale does not teach or suggest a module housing that is coupled to a motor housing and movable in the axial direction with respect to the motor housing. Spedale does disclose

holes for use in attaching the housing 12 to the motor. However, as acknowledged by the Examiner, Spedale does not explicitly teach a module housing movable in an axial direction relative to the motor housing.

Bloser does not cure the deficiencies of Spedale. Bloser discloses a motor speed control apparatus that includes weights 23 that pivot as a function of the speed of the shaft 14. Movement of the weights 23 moves the shaft 29, which in turn moves a metallic diaphragm 35. A ring member 30 supports the diaphragm 35 and is supported by stud bolts 31 that allow axial movement of the ring member 30 relative to the motor shaft 14. However, the governor, in the case of Bloser, the weights 23, is not disposed substantially within the ring member 30 and as such is not disposed within a housing that is movable in the axial direction. Thus, Bloser does not teach or suggest a module housing that is coupled to the motor housing and is movable in the axial direction with respect to the motor housing and that substantially encloses a governor.

In light of the foregoing, Spedale and Bloser, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every limitation of claim 9. As such, claim 9 is allowable. In addition, claims 10-11 depend from claim 9 and are allowable for these and other reasons.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 3-13 are allowable.

The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TJ Otterlee', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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